

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 /079 W
-----047801 251307Z /72

R 251050Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4345
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USNATO

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BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC

E.O. 22652 N.A.
TAGS: PINT, SP; PEPR, SP, UR
SUBJECT: PRAVDA'S AFANASIEV SPEAKS OUT, JUMPS IN

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REF: MADRID 4300 NOTAL

1. "PRAVDA" DIRECTOR VICTOR AFANASIEV, IN MADRID HEADING
UP THE CPSU DELEGATION TO THE PCE'S NINTH PARTY CONGRESS
(REFTEL), HAS BEEN QUOTED BY MADRID'S "INFORMACIONES"
AND "EL PAIS" AS MAKING STATEMENTS ABOUT SPANISH POLITICS
WHICH ARE CERTAIN TO EVOKE SOME ADVERSE REACTIONS ACROSS

THE SPANISH POLITICAL SPECTRUM. IN SEPARATE INTERVIEWS WITH THE TWO PAPERS, AFANASIEV REPORTEDLY STATED INTER ALIA THAT:

2. CPSU FRATERNAL MESSAGE (MOSCOW 8348). "WE ARE A MARXIST-LENINIST PARTY AND FOR US LENIN IS THE FLAG OF THE REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE. WE CANNOT BE HAPPY THAT THE PCE IS ABANDONING LENINISM; WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY COUNTRY THAT HAS ARRIVED AT SOCIALISM VIA ANY PATH OTHER THAN MARXISM-LENINISM." (INFORMACIONES")

3. THE MONARCHY. "I BELIEVE QUITE SIMPLY THAT CAAAILLO LIKES THE KING. OF COURSE, WE BELIEVE THAT MONARCHY AND SOCIALISM ARE TWO TOTALLY IRRECONCILABLE QUESTIONS, THAT ONE CANNOT BE SOCIALIST AND MONARCHIST. BUT, AT THE SAME TIME, ONE MUST KEEP IN MIND THE SPANISH POLITICAL SITUATION AND RECOGNIZE THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE KING IS QUITE A BIT MORE DEMOCRATIC THAN WAS FRANCO'S...IN ANY CASE, IF THE SPANISH PEOPLE WANT THE MONARCHY, WE ARE NOT OPPOSED..." (INFORMACIONES")

4. SPAIN AND NATO. "WE BELIEVE SPAIN SHOULD REMAIN OUTSIDE THE MILITARY BLOCS, ALL OF THEM. WE DO NOT DESIRE THAT SPAIN ENTER THE WARSAW PACT EITHER; IT CAN FUNCTION PERFECTLY WELL WITHOUT SPAIN. BUT WE BELIEVE THAT SPAIN'S ENTRY INTO NATO WOULD DESTABILIZE EUROPE AND THE WORLD AND ALSO REPRESENT AN OBVIOUS DANGER TO SPAIN." (INFORMACIONES")

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5. "IN THE POLITICAL SPHERE, OUR PRINCIPAL --OCCUPATION CONCERNS THE POSSIBILITY THAT SPAIN WILL ENTER IN THE ORBIT OF THOSE FORCES...THAT ARE NOT EXACTLY FRIENDS OF OURS. SPEAKING MORE CLEARLY, WE WOULD NOT WANT SPAIN TO ENTER NATO, IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT SPAIN ALREADY HAS ONE FOOT WITHIN THAT BLOC. HERE IN SPAIN, THERE ALREADY ARE FOREIGN BASES. THE QUESTION OF FOREIGN BASES IS AN ISSUE FOR THE SPANISH PEOPLE TO DECIDE. IT IS UP TO THEM TO DECIDE WHICH PLANES AND ATOMIC SUBMARINES USE THEIR AIRSPACE AND WATERS. NEVERTHELESS, THAT DOES NOT PREVENT US FROM BEING CONCERNED. WE WOULD NOT WANT, THEN, SPAIN TO PUT ITS OTHER FOOT IN NATO AND BECOME DEFINITELY A MEMBER OF THAT BLOC...THE ENTRY OF SPAIN INTO NATO COULD IMPEDE THE NORMAL DEVELOPMENT OF SPANISH-SOVIET RELATIONS..." ("EL PAIS")

6. FOR THE RECORD, WE ALSO NOTE THAT, WHILE AFANASIEV WAS MAKING HIS PRESENCE IN MADRID KNOWN, SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR YURI ISAYEV QUIETLY LEFT MADRID FOR MOSCOW, AFTER BEING EXPELLED BY THE GOS FOR REPORTED ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES. THIS WAS THE THIRD SUCH INCIDENT SINCE DIPLOMATIC

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WERE ESTABLISHED.

7. ON A LIGHTER NOTE, THE SOVIET DELEGATION, IN A POINTED PARTING SHOT THAT TESTIFIED TO AN APPARENTLY HEALTHY SENSE OF HUMOR ON THEIR PART, PRESENTED THE PCE WITH A REPRODUCTION OF A FAMOUS PORTRAIT OF LENIN. CARRILLO, IN ASQBKCOMMENTED DRILY THAT THE PORTRAIT WAS "RATHER LARGE." STABLER

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